

From: Matthew M
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 6:07pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

I can only talk from my own experience of Microsoft software. I have found that in general it is of poor quality compared with the alternatives, yet the company insists on pushing through incompatible standards which the rest of the world is forced to adopt; this reduces variety and choice in the marketplace, and is certainly NOT in the interests of consumers.

While I respect that Microsoft is a commercial entity, with the purpose of generating profit, it still seems to be harmful for consumers. A recent example is Microsoft disallowing foreign browsers from accessing their Hotmail web-based email service. Microsoft Windows fails to adhere to many standards, which tends to cause problems in real environments. And yet thier products are branded as "Standard", "Stable" and "Secure"? Especially secure. Since a discovery of a fatal flaw in the security of thier "Most Secure Windows Yet" this should be taken with a pinch of salt. At very least, this is a trade description violation.

Regards,

Matthew MacLeod